

August 2018  
Dear Band Parents,

Welcome back to school and to the 2018-2019 band season. All of the information you will need about the schedule, procedures and fees can be found in this letter. If you have any questions at all, don't hesitate to contact me. If your child hasn't practiced much over the summer, now is the time to dust off that instrument and get those lips back in shape! We look forward to performing for you at both the Christmas and the Spring performances. **Christmas Program: Dec 19 @1:30 and 7:00 p.m. Spring Program: May 9 @1:30 and 7 p.m.**

**SCHEDULE :** Advanced Band students have ensemble (full group) on Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 7:45a.m. **Students should be dropped off on Falls Ave and enter through the beforecare doors.** Students should come straight to the band room. They are not permitted to stop in their classroom or loiter in the halls. **Students who come before 7:40 will be charged for beforecare and have to wait in the cafeteria until 7:40. Brothers and sisters may be dropped off as well. If you choose for them to remain in beforecare they will be charged, but they are also allowed to come to the band room and sit until 8:00.** They are not charged if you choose this option, and as long as they sit quietly I don't mind at all. Thank you for the extra effort you will have to put into your morning routine to ensure your child's timely arrival.

Students will also have one lesson per week with similar instruments. This lesson takes place during the day on FRIDAY according to a rotating schedule that I will give the students. The schedule rotates so that students do not miss the same class. Also, because the lesson is 30 min, and the class periods are 43 minutes, students still have time to find out from their teachers what they need to do for class. This arrangement has worked for us for many years, and students are required to attend all of the class meetings.

**GRADING:** Advanced Band at Saint Joseph School is a graded elective course. The students will receive a letter grade each quarter, and the grading scale is based on several factors including:

1. playing quizzes on pieces and scales
2. Written quizzes on aspects of the music, musical symbols, and composers covered in class
3. Daily playing grade: Ten points can be earned each class period, based on playing and improvement.
4. Attendance
  - a. Failure to attend class results in a zero for that period.
  - b. Attendance at performances is mandatory. Failure to attend will result in a failing grade for the performance. Program dates are listed above.

**FEE:** The band fee will be \$30.00 per month per student and can be paid through FACTS.

If I were to wake up sick in the morning, and need to cancel band, you can be quickly notified if you sign up for a free educational texting service called REMIND. REMIND is an APP through which I can contact students and parents, and students and parents can contact me without anyone having each other's cell phone numbers. The app states that you have to be 13 to use it, and I would request that no student sign up without the parent also using it, so that you are aware of the information that I am sending. If you joined last year, you are still in the class and do not need to join again.

If you wish to participate in this service, you may enroll by texting @mrslwenm to 81010. If you also have a student in beginning band, there will be a different code, because the two groups will be texted separately.

If you have any difficulty setting this up, or have any questions about it, please let me know.

Musically yours,

Mrs. Wenmoth

\_\_\_\_\_ DETACH AND RETURN- \_\_\_\_\_

I have read the above information and am willing and able to make the commitment to be a member of the Advanced Band.

Student signature \_\_\_\_\_

My child has my permission to participate in Advanced Band and will, to the best of my ability, be sure the commitment is fulfilled.

Parent or Guardian signature \_\_\_\_\_

Advanced Band will begin Tuesday August 28, 2018